

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims as indicated in the listing of claims below. This listing of claims will replace the claims in the Accompanying Application. The claims are marked to indicate the changes made with deletions indicated by strikethroughs and additions indicated by underlining.

Claim 1 (Original): An interdental brush comprising:

a handle;

a brush body;

a brush support for holding the brush body;

an arm connected at one end to one side of the handle and hingedly connected at the other end to one side of the brush support; and

an operating portion hingedly connected to a second side of the brush support and movably connected to the handle for rotating the brush support relative to the handle in a range of about 90 degrees.

Claim 2 (Original): The interdental brush of claim 1, such that the operating portion can slide along a predetermined length of the handle.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The interdental brush according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, including a mechanism cooperating with the operating portion for moving the brush support between a first and second position and holding the brush support at either position.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An interdental brush according to ~~any one of claims claim 1 to 3~~, including a removable cap comprising a cap body which covers the brush body and a cap base which connects to the brush support, and

the cap body and the cap base having an opening which allows capping the brush body and brush support.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The interdental brush according to ~~any of claims claim 1 to 4~~,

wherein the friction between the operating portion and the handle is sufficiently low to permit movement of the operating portion relative to the handle, but sufficiently high to prevent unwanted movement of the brush body during use of the interdental brush.

Claim 6 (Original): The interdental brush of claim 5,

wherein the opening in the cap allows capping the brush body and brush support from the side.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The interdental brush of claim ~~5 or 6~~,

wherein the cap can be attached to the interdental brush regardless of the angle of the brush.

Claim 8 (Original): An interdental brush having;

a brush body;

a brush support that holds the brush body base;

a handle supporting the brush body and brush support, the handle being hingedly connected to the brush support allowing the brush body to freely rotate;

a detachable brush cap having a cap body that covers the brush body; and

a detachable cap base that connects to the brush support base, the cap body and the cap base having an opening adapted to be removably placed over the brush body and the brush support.

Claim 9 (Original): The interdental brush of claim 8,

wherein the opening in the cap allows capping the brush body and brush support from the side.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The interdental brush of claim 8 ~~or 9~~,

wherein the cap can be attached to the interdental brush regardless of the angle of the brush.

Claim 11 (Original): An interdental brush having a brush body and a handle member,

the handle member comprising:

a handle;

an arm extending from one end of the handle along the length of the handle and having a tip;

a brush support that holds the brush body;

a first hinge that connects the tip of the arm and one end of the brush support in a freely rotating manner;

an operating portion situated in a position-changeable manner at the other end of the handle and slidable along the length of the handle, the operating portion having a tip; and

a second hinge that connects the tip of the operating portion and the other end of the brush support in a freely rotating manner,

wherein changing a position of the operating portion along the handle's length enables a user to rotate the brush body relative to the handle.

Claim 12 (Original): The interdental brush of claim 11,

wherein a pair of slide guides are provided along the length of the handle and the operating portion has elements which fit into and slide within the slide guides, and

wherein at least one stop is provided to control movement of the operating portion within the guides and the changing a position of the operating portion is done by sliding.

Claim 13 (Original): The interdental brush of claim 11,

wherein the operating portion and handle have a plurality of cooperating protrusions and recesses that are located at intervals along the length of the handle and that allow the operating portion to be moved to these locations along the length of the handle and thereby to move the brush body through a plurality of positions.